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also includes personal property necessary to perform daily functions exclusive of passenger cars, trucks, boats, or other special vehicles. (See § 416.1218 for a discussion on how automobiles are counted.) Property used to produce goods or services or property necessary to perform daily functions is excluded if the individual's equity in the property does not exceed \$6,000. Personal property which is required by the individual's employer for work is not counted, regardless of value, while the individual is employed. Examples of this type of personal property include tools, safety equipment, uniforms and similar items.

Example: Bill owns a small unimproved lot several blocks from his home. He uses the lot, which is valued at \$4,800, to grow vegetables and fruit only for his own consumption. Since his equity in the property is less than \$6,000, the property is excluded as necessary to self-support.

[50 FR 42687, Oct. 22, 1985]

§ 416.1225 An approved plan to achieve self-support; general.

If you are blind or disabled, we will pay you SSI benefits and will not count resources that you use or set aside to use for expenses that we determine to be reasonable and necessary to fulfill an approved plan to achieve self-support.

[71 FR 28265, May 16, 2006]

§ 416.1226 What is a plan to achieve self-support (PASS)?

- (a) A PASS must—
 - (1) Be designed especially for you;
 - (2) Be in writing;
 - (3) Be approved by us (a change of plan must also be approved by us);
 - (4) Have a specific employment goal that is feasible for you, that is, a goal that you have a reasonable likelihood of achieving;
 - (5) Have a plan to reach your employment goal that is viable and financially sustainable, that is, the plan—
 - (i) Sets forth steps that are attainable in order to reach your goal, and
 - (ii) Shows that you will have enough money to meet your living expenses while setting aside income or resources to reach your goal;
 - (6) Be limited to one employment goal; however, the employment goal

may be modified and any changes related to the modification must be made to the plan;

(7) Show how the employment goal will generate sufficient earnings to substantially reduce your dependence on SSI or eliminate your need for title II disability benefits;

Example 1: A Substantial Reduction Exists. Your SSI monthly payment amount is \$101 and your PASS employment goal earnings will reduce your SSI payment by \$90. We may consider that to be a substantial reduction.

Example 2: A Substantial Reduction Exists. You receive a title II benefit of \$550 and an SSI payment of \$73. Your PASS employment goal will result in work over the SGA level that eliminates your title II benefit but increases your SSI payment by \$90. We may consider that a substantial reduction because your work will eliminate your title II payment while only slightly increasing your SSI payment.

Example 3: A Substantial Reduction Does Not Exist. Your SSI monthly payment amount is \$603 and your PASS employment goal earnings will reduce your SSI payment by \$90. We may not consider that to be a substantial reduction.

(8) Contain a beginning date and an ending date to meet your employment goal;

(9) Give target dates for meeting milestones towards your employment goal;

(10) Show what expenses you will have and how they are reasonable and necessary to meet your employment goal;

(11) Show what resources you have and will receive, how you will use them to attain your employment goal, and how you will meet your living expenses; and

(12) Show how the resources you set aside under the plan will be kept separate from your other resources.

(b) You must propose a reasonable ending date for your PASS. If necessary, we can help you establish an ending date, which may be different than the ending date you propose. Once the ending date is set and you begin your PASS, we may adjust or extend the ending date of your PASS based on progress towards your goal and earnings level reached.

(c) If your employment goal is self-employment, you must include a business plan that defines the business,

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provides a marketing strategy, details financial data, outlines the operational procedures, and describes the management plan.

(d) Your progress will be reviewed at least annually to determine if you are following the provisions of your plan.

[71 FR 28265, May 16, 2006]

§416.1227 When the resources excluded under a plan to achieve self-support begin to count.

The resources that were excluded under the individual's plan will begin to be counted as of the first day of the month following the month in which any of these circumstances occur:

(a) Failing to follow the conditions of the plan;

(b) Abandoning the plan;

(c) Completing the time schedule outlined in the plan; or

(d) Reaching the goal as outlined in the plan.

[50 FR 42688, Oct. 22, 1985]

§416.1228 Exclusion of Alaskan natives' stock in regional or village corporations.

(a) In determining the resources of a native of Alaska (and spouse, if any) there will be excluded from resources, shares of stock held in a regional or village corporation during the period of 20 years in which such stock is inalienable, as provided by sections 7(h) and 8(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1606, 1607). The 20-year period of inalienability terminates on January 1, 1992.

(b) As used in this section, *native of Alaska* has the same meaning as that contained in section 3(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(b)).

§416.1229 Exclusion of payments received as compensation for expenses incurred or losses suffered as a result of a crime.

(a) In determining the resources of an individual (and spouse, if any), any amount received from a fund established by a State to aid victims of crime is excluded from resources for a period of 9 months beginning with the month following the month of receipt.

(b) To be excluded from resources under this section, the individual (or

spouse) must demonstrate that any amount received was compensation for expenses incurred or losses suffered as the result of a crime.

[61 FR 1712, Jan. 23, 1996]

§416.1230 Exclusion of life insurance.

(a) *General.* In determining the resources of an individual (and spouse, if any), life insurance owned by the individual (and spouse, if any) will be considered to the extent of its cash surrender value. If, however, the total face value of all life insurance policies on any person does not exceed \$1,500, no part of the cash surrender value of such life insurance will be taken into account in determining the resources of the individual (and spouse, if any). In determining the face value of life insurance on the individual (and spouse, if any), term insurance and burial insurance will not be taken into account.

(b) *Definitions*—(1) *Life insurance.* Life insurance is a contract under which the insurer agrees to pay a specified amount upon the death of the insured.

(2) *Insurer.* The insurer is the company or association which contracts with the owner of the insurance.

(3) *Insured.* The insured is the person upon whose life insurance is effected.

(4) *Owner.* The owner is the person who has the right to change the policy. This is normally the person who pays the premiums.

(5) *Term insurance.* Term insurance is a form of life insurance having no cash surrender value and generally furnishing insurance protection for only a specified or limited period of time.

(6) *Face value.* Face value is the basic death benefit of the policy exclusive of dividend additions or additional amounts payable because of accidental death or under other special provisions.

(7) *Cash surrender value.* Cash surrender value is the amount which the insurer will pay (usually to the owner) upon cancellation of the policy before death of the insured or before maturity of the policy.

(8) *Burial insurance.* Burial insurance is insurance whose terms specifically provide that the proceeds can be used only to pay the burial expenses of the insured.